

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OC-06 CCO-00 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 RSR-01

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R 150300 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6762

USLO PEKING

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 1535

BANGKOK FOR REGIONAL COURIER OFFICE

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NZ/ CH, ACOM

SUBJ: NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY IN PEKING

REF: (A) WELLINGTON A-118 OF JUNE 12, 1973;

(B) STATE 115118

1. APPOINTMENT OF BRYCE HARLAND AS NZ AMBASSADOR TO PRC (REF A) IS SEEN BY MFA SECRETARY CORNER AS TRIUMPH FOR CAREER FOREIGN SERVICE. PM KIRK, IN MAKING APPOINTMENT, RESISTED PRESSURE TO SEND A QUOTE NAME UNQUOTE AND CHOSE INSTEAD PROBABLY THE BEST- QUALIFIED MAN TO CARRY OUT GNZ POLICIES VIS- A- VIS PRC.

2. IT HAS BEEN HARLAND, MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, WHO HAS THOUGHT THROUGH FUTURE GNZ ASIAN POLICY AND SUCCESSFULLY SOLD IT TO HIS SUPERIORS. HE HAS A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS EMBASSY AND HAS BEEN A GRATEFUL RECIPIENT OF BRIEFINGS AND MATERIAL ON THE EVOLVING US POLICY FOR THE 70' S IN EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC. HIS UNDERSTANDING OF OUR INTENTIONS IN THE AREA HAS ENABLED HIM TO CONSTRUCT A COMPLEMENTARY GNZ POLICY.

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THIS HAS NOW BEEN SET DOWN IN A SERIES OF THREE SPEECHES, TWO OF WHICH HE HAS DELIVERED RECENTLY, AND ONE WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER DELIVERED A FEW DAYS AGO, MAKING IT OFFICIAL. COPIES OF THESE DOCUMENTS ARE BEING POUCHED TO ADDRESSEES.

3. HARLAND IS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF AL JENKINS, JOHN HOLDRIDGE AND BOB BLACKBURN AND LOOKS FORWARD TO WHAT HE HOPES WILL BE A CLOSE AND FRUITFUL RELATIONSHIP IN PEKING. IN A DISCUSSION YESTERDAY HE SAID THE CURRENT TIMETABLE IS FOR CHARGE JOHN CARTER AND A TYPIST TO ARRIVE PEKING JUNE 25. AN RNZAF HERCULES WITH SUPPLIES AND EMBASSY FURNISHINGS AND ADDITIONAL STAFF IS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 22. HARLAND EXPECTS TO ARRIVE IN EARLY SEPTEMBER AND A HIGH- LEVEL TRADE MISSION IS PLANNED FOR LATE SEPTEMBER.

4. MFA IS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF OFFER (REFTEL B) OF COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANCE. THEY HAD ALREADY BEEN EXPLORING WITH CANADA USE OF THEIR CHANNELS AND MAY WISH TO UTILIZE SOME OF BOTH. MFA COMMUNICATIONS HEAD WILL SHORTLY CONSULT WITH EMBASSY TO WORK OUT SUITABLE ARRANGEMENT.

5. AT THIS STAGE HARLAND IS MOST INTERESTED IN LEARNING OF OUR ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICS EXPERIENCES IN SETTING UP USLO IN HOPES GNZ CAN REAP SOME BENEFIT. HE PARTICULARLY WANTS TO KNOW IF WE HAVE HAD ANY PROBLEMS WITH OUR MILITARY CARGO FLIGHTS. PRC HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO HERCULES FLIGHT JULY 22 BUT DETAILS, FLIGHT PLAN, ETC., HAVE YET TO BE WORKED OUT.

6. ANY REPORTING WHICH COULD BE PASSED ON TO MFA WOULD ALSO BE APPRECIATED.
VANDIVIER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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